

# THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

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## MINES OF SOUTH-AMERICA.

Agreeably to our promise we shall now give a short sketch of the Mines of South America and their produce. It is the opinion of Humboldt that the world lies under a mistake in relation to these mines, and that the belief that great masses of native silver are extremely common in Mexico, is unfounded. The veins of Norway, Saxony and Siberia yield masses of silver much more considerable. Silver under all climates, is sometimes found concentrated in one point, and sometimes disseminated in *gangue*, and allied to other metals. This arises from some chemical affinity with the mode of action and laws, of which we are still unacquainted. This metal, however, though not so abundant in blocks as in the old world, is found more plentifully in a state of perfect purity in Mexico and Peru than in any other quarter of the globe. The medium amount is from 3 to 4 ounces of silver to one quintal of ore. M. Gareis says that the great mass of Mexican ore is so poor, that the 3 millions of marcs of silver which the kingdom yields in good years, are extracted from 6 millions of quintals of ore extracted partly by melting, and partly by amalgamation. The proportion between the rich and poor silver ore is from 3 to 14. The mine of Valenciana yielded in 1791, 200,000 marks of silver—a proportion of 3 to 22.

In Peru the greater part of the silver extracted from the bosom of the earth is furnished by *Pacas*, a mineral of an earthy appearance, which consists of an intimate mixture of almost imperceptible parcels of native silver, with the brown oxid of iron. In Mexico, on the contrary, the greatest quantity of silver is taken from these minerals, which the Saxon miners denominate *durre erze*, or meager ore. The central groupe of mines, a portion of earth which is more abundant in silver than any in the world, is situated upon the same parallel of latitude with Bengal. This groupe embraces 3 districts of mines—Guanaxuato, Catorce and Zacatecas. The produce of the veins of Guanaxuato is double that of Potosi, and yields in a common year from 5 to 600,000 marcs of silver, and from 15 to 1600 marcs of gold. The mine of Valenciana has yielded to its proprietors for 40 years, from 2 to 3 millions of francs annual profit. In order to form an idea of the enormous expense which the working of this mine requires, the following exhibit is given:—

VOL. II.

H.

To miners, essayers, masons, and other

workmen employed in the mine, 73,400,000  
For powder, tallow, wood, leather,  
steel, and other materials, 1,100,000

Annual expense 74,500,000

We give the following comparative table to show the superiority of the American to the European mines:

Common year.	AMERICA. Mine of Valenciana, the richest mine in Mexico.	EUROPE. Mine of Himmelsfurst, the richest mine in Saxony.
Metallic produce,	300,000 marcs silver.	10,000 marcs silver.
Total costs & expen.	500,000 liv. tournois.	240,000 liv. tournois.
Nett profit,	3,000,000 liv.	90,000 liv.
Number of workmen	3,100 Indians, of whom 1,800 are in the interior.	700 miners, of whom 580 are in the interior.

Mr. Humboldt divides the mines of New Spain into 8 groups, which he says occupy a surface of 12,000 square leagues. He thinks the quantity of silver annually taken from the mines of Mexico is 7 times as great as that of all the mines of Europe together; but the gold is not more abundant than in Hungary and Transylvania. The Mexican gold proceeds from alluvial lands, and is extracted from veins which traverse the mountains of primitive rocks, and in some of these veins *native gold* is frequently found. The *porphyries* of Mexico, may be considered as the rocks eminently abounding in mines of gold and silver.

For the National Register.

SIR,

I have been at last gratified by an examination of the *Library of Congress*, late the property of Mr. Jefferson. I must confess that my surprise was not inconsiderable to find it so rare and valuable a collection of books. I have no hesitation in declaring that the money given for it by Congress was by no means an equivalent, and that such a library could not be purchased for any sum. The handsome appearance of the books on the shelves, their order of location, and the *toute ensemble* of the room, evince great care and attention on the part of the librarian, who seems to be devoted to his business. The arrangement is, I think, admirable; and, with a view to gratify your literary and scientific readers, I send you an analysis of the plan, which the librarian was polite enough to permit me to copy, and which will enable them to judge pretty correctly for themselves.

Z.

BOOKS may be classed according to the faculties of the mind employed on them: these are—

## I. MEMORY.

## II. REASON.

## III. IMAGINATION.

Which are applied respectively to—

## I. HISTORY.

## II. PHILOSOPHY.

## III. FINE ARTS.

I. HISTORY	Civil	Civil Proper	Antient	Antient History	
			Modern	Foreign British American	
	Natural	Ecclesiastical		Ecclesiastical	
		Physics		Natural Philosophy Agriculture Chemistry Surgery Medicine	
		Nat. Hist. Proper	Animals	Anatomy Zoology	
			Vegetables	Botany	
Occupations of Man		Minerals	Mineralogy Technical Arts		
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II. PHILOSOPHY	Moral	Ethics		Moral Philosophy L. of Nature & Nations	
			Religious	Religion	
		Jurisprudence	Municipal	Domestic	Equity Common Law Law Merchant Law Maritime Law Ecclesiastical
				Foreign Law	
		Economical		Politics Commerce Arithmetic Geometry Mechanics Statics Dynamics Pneumatics Phonics Optics Astronomy Geography	
	Mathematical	Pure			
		Physico-Mathematical			
	<hr/>				
	III. FINE ARTS		Architecture		Architecture
Gardening				Gardening	
Painting				Painting	
Sculpture				Sculpture	
Music				Music	
Poetry				Epic Romance Pastorals Odes Elegies Didactic Tragedy Comedy Dialogue Epistles	
				Logic Rhetoric Orations Theory Bibliography Languages Polygraphical	
Oratory					
Criticism					
Authors who have written on various branches					

Authors who have written on various branches

## CHARACTERISTIC TRAITS.

Modesty is the usual associate of genuine bravery. It is the concomitant of every species of excellence, and gives a charm to its possessor that fascinates while it excites our admiration. The man who unites to powers of mind that approximate him to deity, all the modesty and humbleness of a child, affords a spectacle that we delight to contemplate, and that we love to behold. It is like the model of beauty shrinking from the gaze of the beholder, and veiling her resistless charms under the garb of humble and lowly indigence. We have been led to these reflections by the perusal of the official communications of our military and naval commanders during the late war. "We have met the enemy, and they are ours," said the gallant Perry, when he vanquished the enemy's fleet on lake Erie. "It has pleased the Almighty to give to the arms of the United States a signal victory over their enemies on this lake." What can be more modest or more Spartan than this. Hitherto our gallant tars had vanquished British vessels in single combat—had vanquished those vessels that the British nation boasted of as being invincible, and as having repeatedly come off victorious over the maritime nations of Europe. The loss of single ships had easily been accounted for by the mortified pride of British writers; and our success was ascribed to a vast superiority of force, under the disguise of frigates. A contest between fleets was a novel event, and the most sanguine anticipations of victory were entertained on the part of the British nation. They had ceased to exult at the capture and destruction of single vessels. This was an event so confidently anticipated, that it excited no emotion, and was barely recorded in their naval chronicle as a common occurrence. But the capture of fleets was a circumstance that excited their enthusiasm, and drew forth their eulogies. They conferred nobility on the fortunate admiral who obtained success, and every honour a grateful nation could bestow was granted. Nelson, decidedly the best officer England has produced, in the whole course of his naval achievements, never conquered an *entire* fleet, and always engaged with a superior force. It was left for the American officers to wrest the well-earned laurels from the brow of the mistress of the deep—to encounter fleets superior in force, and to come off completely victorious. Yet with a consciousness of all this merit, the modest and gallant Perry and McDonough, with laconic brevity, only observe, "we have met the enemy, and they are ours"—and "the Almighty has been pleased to grant us a signal victory on lake Cham-

plain, in the capture of 1 frigate, 1 brig, and 2 sloops of war of the enemy." The expression of Cæsar, *veni vidi vici*, has often been extolled for its brevity and compass, but it bears no competition with the communication of Perry or McDonough. They had obtained signal victories over an enemy who had enjoyed the complete command of the ocean for many years, and who had acquired a character of invincibility that no one had presumed to question. The merit was unquestionably very great; and yet these gallant men ascribe all the merit to that Being, who rides on the whirlwind and directs the storm, and assume but a subordinate share of the glory to which they were entitled by their bravery, their patriotism, and their skill. This unassuming modesty enhances their glory, and we unhesitatingly grant them every praise it is in our power to bestow. In all the official communications of our meritorious naval and military commanders, when a detail could not be given with convenience, the same laconic brevity, and the same modesty are observed when communicating the victorious result of a battle. This characteristic trait must be gratifying to the American feeling, and add lustre to the reputation of American bravery in the estimation of the nations of Europe.

## BRITISH DESIGNS.

The editor of the London Messenger seems to think that a war between this country and Great Britain is not very remote, and that, preparatory to such an event, the British government are increasing their naval and military force on the Canadian frontier. We doubt not this information is correct; the latter, at least, we know to be so; and we cannot conceive why all this formidable and expensive preparation should be made if a war was not ultimately expected. It shows the necessity of adopting those precautions we suggested in a former number of the *Register*, and the propriety of keeping time with them in our preparations for such an event. We lament to discover so much supineness and indifference in the American government on a subject of so much importance. Preparation could do no injury, and might be of essential benefit. In the event of another war, we would be prepared to meet the shock, and not be, as we were at the commencement of the last war, exposed, defenceless, and wholly disqualified for even defensive operations. That it may be the intention of the British government to attack us when we are not dreaming of such an event, is, we think, within the compass of probability; and it is the policy of a nation to be guarded against probable misfortunes.

To slumber in imaginary security is an evidence of imbecility; and to calculate too much on physical strength is equally absurd, particularly when, by proper precaution, that strength can be assisted by the aid of art.

We hope our government will pay proper attention to this subject, and make arrangements for keeping pace with our neighbours in naval and military preparation.

Communicated.

#### SPANISH OUTRAGE.

Spain, under her present mad ruler, is pursuing a course that must eventually result in her disgrace and ruin. I cannot perceive what object she can have in exciting the indignation and vengeance of a nation that is unwilling to be embroiled in contentions with foreign powers, and whose policy it ever has been to be in harmony and peace with the world. Ferdinand can surely expect nothing from this country that will redound to his advantage or add to his reputation; and if he had the wisdom of a mouse, he would see that wantonly to aggravate and insult is not the best mode to accomplish any object he might have in view. Perhaps there already exists in the United States too great an excitement against him; and deliberately to increase it, as he has recently done, is the very acme of stupidity and folly. Destitute, as he seems to be, of wisdom, he must be destitute of common prudence, and he will blunder on till insulted humanity whirls him from his throne, amid the exultations of the world.

The Americans appreciate their liberties, their rights, and their national honour too highly tamely to be insulted by a nation so degraded as Spain. The affair of the Firebrand, which was cowardly attacked lately off Vera Cruz by three Spanish vessels, is of a nature that would have excited the indignant feelings of this country, if no cause had previously existed. The result may easily be anticipated, if Ferdinand does not deny that they were authorized to commit this outrage on the American flag. If the statement be correct, that these Dons declared they were authorized "to drive every American vessel from the Gulph of Mexico," a force should be immediately ordered to sweep the coast of these paltry reptiles, without waiting for negotiation. To the American tars it would be a matter of amusement. They would exult at an opportunity to grapple with such an enemy, and scare the noble Dons into the cock-pit by a single discharge of American thunder. I have reason to believe that measures have been taken to compel these Span-

ish marauders to respect our flag; and when they next meet with an American vessel, I presume they will not be quite so solicitous to insult its officers.

What but the most consummate madness could induce the idiot king of Spain to urge by insults this country into a war with him, I am at a loss to imagine. Can he not perceive that the aid of this country would in an instant turn the scale against him, and give freedom and independence to the eighth part of the globe—and to the richest and most beautiful section of his country. Thousands and tens of thousands of American youths only wait the beck of their government to pounce at once upon the Spanish authorities in South-America, and carry victory and independence wherever they move. Can he deliberately wish to hasten his ruin, or is he so very a madman as to be incapable of seeing his own interests? I should hope that his counsellors at least, if he have any, would admonish him of his error in time, and enable him to see the rashness and folly of his conduct, and wrest him and the nation from irretrievable disgrace.

For the National Register.

#### AGRICULTURAL.

Although the insipid juice of the "Papava Somniferum Album" of Linnaeus possesses, in a high degree, a narcotic principle, which is usually extracted from the capsule that encloses the seed, and which, from its utility as a medicine, has justly been styled "Magnum Dei donum;" yet the seeds contained in this capsule, yield a bland oil, perfectly free from any narcotic quality, which may be used with the greatest safety for all domestic purposes, in the place of olive oil. For this purpose it has been cultivated in France, Brabant, Holland, and Great Britain, and the cakes, after expressing the oil, have been found a very nutritious article of diet for cattle. Two pounds of the seed, *broad cast*, are sufficient for one acre, in drills of a less proportion. The time of sewing, in England, is from the middle of March until the latter part of April. When the plants are two inches high, they must be weeded and thinned till they stand seven or eight inches high from each other; the weeding is to be repeated as often as it may be thought necessary. At the end of August, according as the season may have been more or less favourable, the seeds are ripe for gathering. In some places it is customary to draw the whole of the plants from the ground, and place them against each other in the manner of wheat sheaves. In this situation they are permitted to remain in the field eight or ten days, until



they are perfectly dry, when they are thrashed out. The most expeditious mode is to cut off the heads in the field, the reaper having an apron before him, tied up at the corners to receive them—they are then put into sacks and bruised by a mallet or flail, and the seeds separated by means of a sieve. In extracting the oil, the mill and press ought to be perfectly clear and the bags new, that no disagreeable flavour may be communicated to the oil. The sooner it is extracted after the harvest the better. The first oil is destined for family use; this must be *cold drawn*; any degree of heat beyond the common temperature of the atmosphere, injures the flavour. A considerable quantity of oil may afterwards be expressed from the *cakes* by increasing the heat.

The expressed oil must remain five or six weeks before it is used, that a *milky substance*, which is combined with it, may be deposited: it may then be poured into another vessel, which should be covered with a linen cloth, or bladder having holes pricked in it. It improves by keeping. The oil which is first expressed is of a pale colour, peculiarly bland, and has a flavour approaching to that of almonds. It is used for sallads and other domestic purposes, either alone or mixed with olive oil. Should the latter be *rancid* it will be improved by a mixture of *recent* "poppy oil." The common oil, extracted from the cakes by the assistance of heat, may be used for lamps. The oil cakes are equal to linseed for feeding and fattening cattle; they eat it with voracity. The stems of the plant are used for fodder, or mixed with dung for manuring land. Sandy soils are said to be the most proper for the cultivation of the Papaver, but if sowed on peat lands, trenches must be dug between the rows.

It is reported that the Blue Poppy will yield the greatest quantity of oil. Sandy ground yielded 13 sacks; peat land 12 sacks.

	mingles.	Cakes.
23 sacks, pressed cold—gave	271	and 834
2 sacks warmed do.	29	and 56
834 Cakes yielded, when warm,	73	
* mingles of oil	373	890
Cakes diminished by a second pressure to 726	prenies	108
Total number of cakes for cattle,		782
Profit from two acres 1.14 6 8 sterling.		

\* A mingle is about two pints.

The affair of the U. S. schooner Firebrand has excited no little interest in the public mind, and awakened curiosity as to the cause which led to it. We hoped that an official account would have been

received before this, from Com. Patterson, the commanding naval officer on the New Orleans station, but it not having arrived, we republish from a New Orleans paper an anonymous letter, purporting to have been written by a gentleman who was on board of the Firebrand at the time the affair took place, and also the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of N. Orleans. In doing this we will venture to recommend to our readers to suspend their opinion until official information be received. The letter from the Bay of St. Louis is evidently intended to place the Spaniards entirely in the wrong, and bears strong marks of not having told the *whole truth*. From private correspondence we are led to believe there are some qualifying circumstances which, when known, will palliate in some considerable degree, the atrocity of this outrage. If it should appear that our citizens were carrying on a trade contrary to the municipal regulations of Spain, and that this trade consisted in arms and munitions of war, and of course contraband—that the Firebrand was in company with a vessel loaded with these articles, destined for the insurgents in a Mexican province, and that our armed schooner might have easily been mistaken for a Carthaginian armed vessel, notwithstanding the exhibition of her colours, we think it will alter the case materially. All the circumstances ought to be known to enable us to make up a correct opinion, and these cannot be had immediately. The affair will doubtless be fully investigated by the proper authorities, and that our government will act promptly and justly we have the fullest confidence. If this affair should prove to be a deliberate and an unprovoked outrage on the part of the Spaniards, and if a prompt disavowal and satisfaction be not made, but one course will remain to be pursued with honor, and in this the government and people will unquestionably coincide.

#### SPANISH AGGRESSIONS.

We copy the following letter from the Orleans Gazette of this morning. Comment is useless—the tale is told to our countrymen and we will not so far slander them as to suppose for a single instant, that an American can read it without a strong feeling of just resentment at injuries and insults which are only the more galling from being inflicted by such a people.—*Louis. Gaz.*

Bay of St. Louis, Sept. 8, 1816.

DEAR SIR,

Nothing of importance occurred after leaving port until the morning of the 27th of August last, when not far from Vera Cruz, at day break, we found ourselves near three vessels, which proved to be his Catholic majesty's ship Diana of 24 guns, commanded by Jose Sorondo; the hermaphrodite, brigs Cassidor and Le Gera, of 18 guns each, the names of the commanders of the

two last mentioned vessels were refused to be given us.

There were not less than five hundred men on board of the two first mentioned vessels, as besides their crews they had many soldiers. The *Le Gera* appeared to be in chase of another vessel. The *Diana* and *Cassidor* made for us, captain Cunningham at the same time approaching them. As we approached within pistol shot, one of the Spaniards on each side of us, at the very moment that our flag was hoisted, the *Cassidor*, without hailing or without any ceremony, fired some of her cannon loaded with grape and canister into us, and a volley of musketry. Capt. Cunningham immediately leaped on a gun, and hailed, stating who we were, and demanded the cause of their firing. The firing continued, intermingled with the most vulgar and bilious abuse. I observed a single musket aimed from the quarter deck of the *Cassidor*, and evidently intended for captain Cunningham, who was conspicuous by his elevation on the gun, and his epaulet; but which fortunately by a few inches missed him, and entered the breast of a marine, and lodged in his neck. We were ordered to send a boat on board; captain Cunningham said he would not send, but he would receive a boat. We were then ordered by the *Diana* to send a boat on board, and lower our mainsail, with a threat that in case of refusal they would sink us. Captain Cunningham ordered Lieut. A. S. Campbell to proceed on board the *Diana*, where his side arms were taken from him, and he was placed under a guard of marines, the gig's crew were put in irons, threatened to be hung, and beat with swords, the marks of which are yet evident. Shortly after a lieutenant came on board of the *Firebrand*, and while conversing with captain Cunningham in his cabin, he was hailed from the *Cassidor*, and requested to get out of danger as they intended to fire into us, board and show no quarters—he replied that we were an American—the reply from the *Cassidor* was, that we were scoundrels and liars; and again was poured upon us every epithet of abuse that cowardice or vulgarity could suggest, and a single musket shot was fired.

At this time captain Cunningham committed the only act which in my opinion was not strictly correct; it was the result of his feelings, not his judgment, soured and irritated by the conduct of cowardly assassins, he exclaimed, opening his bosom and springing on a gun "fire at me, but not at my men." The Spanish boat's crew, that brought the Spanish Lieutenant on board of us, when they heard the last threat, leaped over board, well knowing their own nation, and convinced that the ocean presented more probable chances of escape than our deck. The Spanish lieutenant was then hailed from the *Diana*, and he ordered captain Cunningham to proceed to the *Diana*; before he went he ordered the colours down, which the Spanish lieutenant would not permit to be done. The Spanish lieutenant mentioned while on board of us, that we had no right to navigate the Gulph of Mexico, that the Spanish king claimed its exclusive sovereignty, that we could have no commerce there to protect, that a new governor general had arrived at Vera Cruz, who had ordered out all the vessels to scour the coast, that the whole coast was in a state of blockade, that their orders were to respect the flag of no nation, that to them there was no difference between the flag of the

insurgents and pirates (as they termed the Mexican republicans) and the United States. Among other insults, equally justifiable, he accused the brave and respectable captain Porter, of the brig *Boxer*, of robbing a Spanish vessel, and of being a pirate. The Spanish lieutenant was then hailed, and proceeded to the *Diana*, and soon returned with a party of marines, and took possession of the *Firebrand*, stating that we were to go to Vera Cruz, and if the governor found it all right, he would pay the expense of our detention—a real Spanish sentiment, dollars a salvo for wounded honor and outraged feelings. Our vessel was searched, and being prisoners, the signals, &c. were sunk. The Spanish lieutenant was again hailed, and proceeded to the *Diana*, and shortly after we were gratified by the return of our commander, lieutenant Campbell, and gig's crew.

Captain Cunningham when he entered on board of the *Diana* offered his sword as a prisoner, which was refused, and he was told that he must follow the Spaniards to Vera Cruz, which he indignantly rejected; his reply was, that as they had so vastly a superior force, they might take him where they chose, but that he would follow no vessel, and that he should represent the whole transaction to his government—A scene of vulgarity, confusion and abuse passed on board of the *Diana*, that would disgrace an American cabin boy.

It is owing to the firmness of captain Cunningham that we have been enabled to reach our own shores, and that I have this opportunity to address you. For I am firmly convinced that no different treatment would have been measured to a non-combatant, than was inflicted on our sailors, fetters & lashes. The official statement of the outrage to American citizens, and our national flag, has, I presume, before this been transmitted to Washington. And it is impossible to doubt that a just and high minded government will immediately take measures to redress her violated rights, and afford to a meritorious officer an opportunity of effacing from the *Star Spangled Banner*, the cowardly insult, and ruffian outrage inflicted upon it.

The American navy has shed too much of its precious blood to give to our name a renown, and our glory a splendor which will be lasting and brilliant; it is too great a favorite with the American people, not at once to point to the cabinet the only means of wiping from its standard, a blot, with which cowards, backed by a vastly superior force, have attempted to stain it. To me, who saw all that passed, there is not a doubt that the Spaniards, by their outrage, and vulgar abuse, wished to provoke us to some act of hostility, that would afford them a pretext for our indiscriminate butchery.

They stood ready to discharge from two large vessels, 42 heavy guns, against a small vessel of eight guns. They fired without hailing, they continued their fire after they ascertained who we were, they fired once after our lieutenant was on board their vessel, they abused us by every vulgar epithet, they imprisoned our officer and flogged our men, they made disgraceful propositions to us, they deliberately aimed at our commander, searched our vessel and stigmatised the worthy Porter as a pirate.

And, sir, with me, after this recital, you will be compelled to believe that they intended to sacrifice us to their dastardly and ignoble passion

for assassination. But thank God we were saved by the firmness and prudence of our commander, who calmly stated who and what we were, and indignantly rejected a proposition, not consistent with the character of an American officer to accept; owing to him we have the opportunity of complaining to the American government of the wanton violence offered to its citizens, and the base attempt to tarnish the reputation of its flag. To its justice we appeal, knowing, by experience, that our government will be prompt to redress our wrongs and uphold the honor of our flag.

I am, &c.

P. S. It would be well for our government to examine the validity of the right assumed by the Spanish King to the exclusive navigation of the Mexican Gulph. Their declarations show what they would do if they were backed by courage and force.

*New Orleans, Sept. 18.*

Under a free and popular form of government like ours, it is the high privilege of the citizen to form and express his opinions in all trying emergencies; and the government itself is bound to regard the public sentiment, and in some measure to direct its operations in conformity to it.

There is little doubt that, in consequence of an unexampled outrage upon the national flag and the measures of retaliation adopted by the naval commander on the New Orleans station, that our country is on the eve of a war. It is proposed therefore, that a meeting of the citizens of New Orleans be held on Thursday at 12 o'clock, at Maspero's Coffee House, in order to express in a respectful address to the executive of the United States, our indignation at the outrage upon our flag, and our readiness to support the government in such measures as it may take in order to obtain satisfaction for the same.

[*Louisiana Gaz.*

*From the Orleans Gazette.*

At a numerous and respectable meeting of the citizens of New Orleans, held on Thursday, the 19th of September, 1816, agreeably to notice in the public prints, in consequence of the late wanton and atrocious attack upon the honor of the American flag by three ships of war belonging to the king of Spain.

The hon. JOSHUA LEWIS was called to the chair, and

PETER K. WAGNER, appointed secretary.

The objects for which the meeting was called having been briefly stated, the following resolutions were moved, and the sense of the meeting having been separately taken upon them, they were carried unanimously, with the exception of the last, which, however, was adopted by a very large majority.

*Resolved*, That the cowardly attack made by the Spanish squadron upon a small vessel of war of the United States, on the high seas, excites our highest indignation: that the circumstances which accompanied and followed this attack, are calculated to inflict a lasting wound on the honor of the nation, if suffered to go unrevenged.

*Resolved*, That the indignities and even stripes, inflicted on our brave seamen, when, not expecting any hostility, they had put themselves in the power of an over whelming force, must corrode the

mind of every American until the remembrance shall be erased by ample expiation.

*Resolved*, That the assertion of the exclusive right to navigate any part of the high seas, set up by the officers of Spain, is as ridiculous as it is insolent, and if not abandoned ought to be resisted with the whole force of the nation.

*Resolved*, That should a recourse be had to arms to procure satisfaction for these injuries and insults, we will cheerfully incur the risks and make the sacrifices incident to such a state of things, and hereby pledge ourselves to our government to support the measures they may think fit to adopt on that subject.

*Resolved*, That the king of Spain, in demanding of the United States, through his minister, Don Onis, a cession of part of the territory of the state of Louisiana, evinced as well a disposition to find pretexts for hostility with the United States, as an utter disregard for the solemn obligation of treaties, and that we never will consent to the surrender of any portion of our fellow citizens to the dominion of corruption, cruelty, and superstition.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to transmit these resolutions to the president of the United States, together with a respectful address, declaring our readiness to support him in such measures as he may adopt to obtain satisfaction for the late violation of our flag; and Messrs. Duncan, Grymes, and Davezac are appointed said committee.

*Resolved*, That it is our opinion that the commanding naval officer on this station ought to proceed to take immediate satisfaction for the insult offered to a vessel under his command, and to the flag of his country; and that if he should have taken steps to inflict a prompt and adequate punishment upon the authors, we highly approve the same, and feel the greatest confidence that his doing so will meet the approbation of his government and his countrymen in all parts of the union.

JOSHUA LEWIS, *Chairman*.

PETER K. WAGNER, *Secretary*.

#### VIEWS IN THE WEST.

The following is an extract of a letter from Dr. William Henry Hening of this city, now regimental surgeon to the detachment of troops commanded by col. Miller, of the 3d regiment, to his father, W. W. Hening, Esq. of this city—which contains some interesting information relative to the *western interests* of the United States—the observations are judicious—and we take much pleasure in submitting them to our readers.

The letter, too, encloses the speech of a chief of the Winnebago tribe of Indians: marked with that peculiar vein of thought and expression, which distinguishes the *long talk* of the Indians.

[*Richmond Enquirer*.

*Camp on Fox River, Green Bay,*

*August 29, 1816.*

"In a letter which I addressed you previous to my leaving Mackinaw, you were informed of the route which I probably would pursue, in returning to Virginia. These anticipations seem thus far realized. In conformity to my expectations, early in July, the detachment of Riflemen stationed at Mackinaw, received orders to repair to Green Bay, and there establish a fort with all convenient expedition; to look down all expect-



ed opposition, from the Indians residing in this country. We sailed from Mackinaw on the 26th of July last, with the schooners Washington, Wayne, Mink, and sloop Amelia—having on board col. Miller of the 3d regiment, col. Chambers, of the rifle, major Gratiot, of the engineers, a detachment of artillery under captain Pierce, and four companies of the 3d infantry, amounting in the whole to 500 men. We entered the mouth of the river on the 7th of August—and, contrary to expectations, received from the French inhabitants and Indians, a very friendly and flattering reception. Whether these professions were sincere, or proceeded from their fears, time will determine. After looking for some days for a proper scite, the engineer has finally fixed on the position, where the old French Fort, (Le Bay) formerly stood. It will be a stockade with strong pickets, a bastion at each angle, with a piece of artillery on each, amply sufficient to beat off any Indian force that can be brought against it. The garrison will consist of two companies of riflemen and two companies of infantry, all under the command of col. Chambers.—Some account of this very delightful country may prove not uninteresting.

When the French first established themselves here, they found the contrast between it and Mackinaw very striking—for, on leaving the latter place, vegetation was scarcely apparent; whereas, on arriving at the Bay, they found the woods and fields clothed in the most luxuriant verdure. At that time, the country was inhabited by two tribes of Indians, the Winnebagoes, (called by the French "Puons," or stinking) and the Manomenies, (called "Faulsavains," or eaters of wild rice.) The Winnebagoes, proving most troublesome, the French and Manomenies turned their arms against them, and having killed a number, drove them to the Winnebago Lake and the Rock river, where they have ever since resided. The soil on both sides of the river, is very fine, and the fine wheat fields and gardens give it every appearance of a rich and fertile country. The river abounds with fish, particularly a species of sturgeon, which exceeds that of James river, in the richness and delicacy of its flavor, and in the spring and fall, myriads of water fowl, attracted by the wild rice, darken the air. This plant springs up in water six or seven feet deep, so thick, as in many places to impede the progress of boats and canoes. The Indians call it Manomen, and living almost entirely on it—they have received from the French the appellation of Faulsavains, or wild rice eaters. When the heads become ripe, they pass through it with their canoes, and bending them over, strike them with small sticks, and in a very short time, nearly fill their canoes with the grain. This, when cleaned, becomes an excellent article of diet, scarcely inferior to the rice of the south. Every thing at present bears a peaceable aspect, but how long this state of things will continue, is very uncertain. Without a great deal of circumspection on the part of the Indian department, and a chain of posts always properly garrisoned, I have little hesitation in saying, that our frontiers once again, will witness the horrors of savage warfare. The Winnebagoes, it is manifest, are decidedly opposed to our making any establishment in this country, as are also a part of the Faulsavains. Nothing, I believe, but the strong force they have

to combat, keeps them quiet. The storm is murmuring at a distance, which I am fearful will, sooner or later, burst on us with all the accumulated horrors of savage vengeance. To give you an idea of the present feelings of the Indians, I inclose a speech of Nat-aw-pin-daw-qua, or the Smoker, a Winnebago chief, delivered before col. Bowyer, the Indian agent."

#### SPEECH

*Of Nat-aw-pin-daw-qua, or Smoker, a Winnebago chief, delivered at Green Bay, on the 23d August, before Col. Bowyer, the Indian agent.*

Father—You fancy, father, that I am of a nation who are in the habit of telling lies, because other tribes give us that character—but all I am going to say now shall be the truth.

Father—It is true that we have committed faults, but the white people are the cause of it. We red skins believe all that you say, and if your intentions are to attack us, we are not alone.

Father—When at Mackinaw, I there told you the general thought of the Indians, and that they were in dread of you. We were afraid that your intention in coming here, to build forts, was with a view to do us harm.

Father—On your arrival here we were much troubled, because we were apprehensive you had come to injure the red skins, but we beg that you may take us under your wings.

Father—You know that the Master of Life governs us all. It is Him who placed us on the earth and is our Master. Should your intentions be to destroy us, I doubt if you could succeed, because He protects us as well as you.

Father—The words that are issuing from my mouth are the words of truth. I am always seeking good. When at Mackinaw, we told you the opinions of the red skins. They are many words, my Father, that are repeated with a false meaning: I beg you will not listen to those words. I am desirous that the children of the same Great Father should always be friends. Be charitable, and listen to the words I am telling you. We hope that our Father will conform to the promises he has made us.

Father—Believe not, that if you should have any troubles with the red coats, that any of us will mix in them. We first saw the French; they were our first fathers: Next to them came the red coats. Now, our determination is not to listen, and should you have any shock among you, we shall remain neutral.

Father—I tell you no lies—All the other nations think as we do, and it is my reason for repeating it now. You have doubts respecting your children the Red Skins. Why have you brought big guns along with you? Certainly it must have been with a view of using them against us. We hope that you will have no use for them, but we do not like to see them in the country.

Father—All that I am telling you is the truth. The French inhabitants residing in this country, who are acquainted with us, and who assist us in our wants, were you to drive them away from the lands they occupy, as well as those at the Prairie du Chien, you would, indeed, reduce us to charity. We are desirous that our father would send these words to our great father (the president) and we should be happy in soon hearing from him.

Father—Do not believe that I tell you any false words. When the French agent for Indian af-



fairs resided among us, we were comparatively happy. He treated us with victuals and clothed us. If I tell lies the French inhabitants who are present can contradict me.

Father—I conceive myself an object of pity, as are also the young men who accompany us. You American agents have always cheated us. I will not believe that you (col. Bowyer) will do the same. The English have also cheated us and led us wrong. We are not, as other tribes, in the habit of incommoding our father at every moment. All that you have promised our chiefs I hope you will perform, in order that they may inform their young men of the real character of their father.

Father—The Master of Life is above us, and who is our master? You see me almost naked, and because I am not as well dressed as you are, you no doubt fancy me an object of pity. It is Him who has willed it so. He has put something in your heads to give you more ideas and intelligence than we possess. But we wish to set off, & see what our father will for do us, that we may show it to the other nations as we pass through them. The Master of Life is present—he listens to us—You know, my father, that he is on earth, in the heavens; in fact, that he fills all matter. I hope that we are not here for the purpose of telling each other lies. You, my father, can you, like us, bore your ears, and suspend bobs to them? Can you put bands of silver on your arms, or bedaub your faces as we do? No, you cannot; because the Master of Life would punish you were you to do it. You see every day nations painted in different colors; he has ordered it so, to show the whites that we are objects of charity, and that they are to assist us.

Father—You see that I tell no lies. It is true that I am a fool. Our fathers received counsel from the French, then from the English, and finally, from you Americans. We have abandoned the red coats, because they cheated us, and our eyes are now opened. We are to reside among you. It is true that they (the red coats,) gave us fine guns and goods; but we do not like their guns as well as your rifles. We hope that our father will supply us soon, and, as you have promised, you will cause our hoes and hatchets to be mended, that our wives may cultivate their fields without difficulty.

Father—You see me now speaking, and were I to continue for the whole day, or, as it frequently happens in large councils, for three or four, you would still hear but the truth. Your arms (rifles) please us. They shoot well, and with them we should be certain of making good hunts. If our Father would furnish us with some of them, we should be able to obtain an easy subsistence for our wives and children, and a sufficiency of skins to exchange with the traders for goods, and occasionally bringing our Father a piece of fresh meat.

Father—There are tribes of Indians who left this yesterday; you opened your breasts (barrels) to them, and gave them your milk (whiskey).—They had not gone far before they drank the whole. I am fearful that those people, after having drank their father's milk in that way, may carry bad words to their villages. It is true, our father promised us some, and if we get it, will carry it to our villages, show it to our young men & old men, that they may have a taste of it, and, at the same time, hear the words of their Father. Under our French father, we lived well—afterwards the Eng-

lish helped us profusely at first, in order to make us foolish. But, for the 2 or 3 years past, they do not give us one third what they are indebted to us. What you have told us, proves true, and we hope you will not treat us as the English have done.

*Continued from page 91.*

#### SKETCHES OF THE BARBARY STATES.

##### No. III.

We have observed that the kingdom of Tunis is the most interesting among the regencies, in consequence of its high rank in antiquity. Within nine miles of the city of Tunis, and on the margin of the most noble bay in the world, are the remains of the once mighty Carthage—its site and ruins are yet perfect, and at this day give a clear and comprehensive idea of its situation and extent, and corresponds with the description given of it by the most accredited historians.

These ruins seldom fail to excite the highest interest: the lapse of time since the foundation of Carthage, the various struggles and revolutions it has witnessed, the illustrious characters it has produced, its wars, its tyrants, its triple walls and demolished towers, all combine to awaken recollections of history; to mark the progress of time, sweeping indiscriminately in its course nations, countries, and cities. The mind traces with rapidity the great events connected with the rise, decline, and fall of this great republic. Its foundation by the exile Dido; the love of Eneas, terror to the Romans; Punic wars; field of Zama; Goths and Vandals, the light Moors and its present possessors, all appear as dreams: the events of twenty-five centuries pass the eye with the rapidity and impression of a noble fiction. We look in vain for those temples in which great spirits dwelled, those schools in which great genius presided, those walls which constancy and valour defended; all are ruins; the flames at the same time destroyed Carthage and Corinth—and the revolution of empires has consigned them to oblivion. The fall of states and calamities of nations have destroyed Utica and Carthage; a change of masters, or the adoption of a new political system, may place that country into hands less barbarous—and while Rome is stripped of its splendour and power without a Regulus or a Scipio, Carthage, its fallen rival, may once more rear its head; and if the Barbary States become a province of a civilized power, Carthage, from its commanding position and great commercial advantages, will once more become the first city in Africa.

Dido landed on the coast of Africa 800 years before the Christian era, and, with a few followers, established a colony which even flourished prior to her death. As she had created no form of government, but simply administered laws which she herself had enacted, the people on her death, whose numbers had augmented greatly by emigration, assembled and adopted a government of a mixed nature, divided the power between the nobles and the plebeians; and, strange as it would appear, this form of government existed unimpaired for seven hundred years. Civil wars then commenced, and popular commotions changed the features of the republic, which were increased by entangling alliances. The Carthage-

nians first commenced with the people of Boetia—they then assisted Xerxes, fought with Agathocles in Africa, with Pyrrhus in Sicily, and finally gave rise to the first Punic war.

Regulus, one of the most illustrious captains of the age, defeated the Carthagenians in several contests, and at length got possession of Tunis, which even at that period was a town of some note: the Carthagenians, finding him so near to their city, and with a victorious army, attempted to effect a peace. Regulus, although anxious to return to Rome and superintend his little farm, still proposed terms so harsh and inadmissible, that the Carthagenians, relying on the justice of their cause and the strength of their city, refused to accede to the terms proposed. This was the first error of Regulus; it led to his destruction, and laid the foundation of a long and bloody war. Contrary to the general expectation, the Carthagenians resumed the contest, and with success—part of their forces, commanded by a Laedemonian called Xantippus, defeated the Romans and took Regulus prisoner.

The Romans, on receiving the intelligence, recruited their forces, and were in their turn successful. The first Punic war continued for twenty-four years. The Romans were no longer the advocates of moderation, the “piping times of peace” had passed, and ambition received new impulse and direction. The capture of Sardinia and the infraction of the treaty with the Carthagenians laid the foundation of the second Punic war.

It is impossible to look at the ruins of Carthage without thinking of Hannibal—this association of ideas will never be separated—every broken colonnade or mouldering tower reminds us of this the greatest hero of antiquity. We have often been led to compare Bonaparte with Hannibal. Their characters and operations diffused in equal ratio with their times. One surmounted, with inexhaustible strength of character and fertility of invention, the difficulties arising from circumscribed resources—the other, with an improved system of warfare, a gallant army, and a treasury adequate to all its wants, unappalled by danger, undismayed by numbers, and supported by unconquerable ambition, gained victory after victory, with a rapidity which had no parallel in history. Hannibal crossed the sea in his little bark, passed trackless mountains, barren plains, and conquered barbarians with barbarians. The invention of gunpowder alone has created the greatest distinction and distance between their operations. Hannibal, however, had not the genius of Caesar, nor the fearless-dashing spirit of Alexander—Bonaparte has both. Hannibal could destroy, but could not organize empires—Bonaparte did both with equal facility. Hannibal was cold and unfeeling, without the least spirit of magnanimity—Bonaparte was equally repulsive, but by no means destitute of a liberal disposition. Both crossed the Alps and were victorious on the plains below—both committed an error which laid the foundation of their ruin—Hannibal in *not* marching to the gates of Rome after the battle of Cannea, and Bonaparte in *marching* to Moscow; and from the two last causes alone can any such comparison be drawn. The last great struggle made by Hannibal was on the plains of Zama, against Scipio, surnamed Africanus, a gallant and amiable general; the result of this battle led to

the final destruction of Carthage, and ended the second Punic war.

The battle of Zama is so renowned in history for acts of heroism and extraordinary valour, as well as for the important changes it produced, that we were at no little pains in endeavouring to ascertain precisely where the battle so called was fought. Polybius describes the field of Zama as being three days march from Carthage. When we consider how numerous Hannibal's army was, of what discordant materials it was composed—the heavy cavalry and elephants—it is reasonable to conclude that the army on leaving Carthage could not have marched more than fifteen miles a day. Scipio left Sicily and landed at Cape Bon, which lays south east of Carthage across the bay; the distance between the two capes, in a direct line, is not more than twelve miles, yet in a circuitous march from Cape Bon to Cape Carthage, which includes the head of that spacious bay, the distance cannot be less than forty miles. Supposing that the army of Scipio took up its line of march from Cape Bon at the moment the Carthaginian forces began to move, they must have met about half way; the heavy sand prevented both powers from marching on the borders of the bay; the army of Scipio passed in the interior, behind the mountains of Mamelif, and must have encountered the forces of Hannibal near a place called at this day Zawan; it is here where I have every reason to believe the battle of Zama was fought. Zawan was celebrated for a spring of water so copious that it supplied Carthage by means of a noble aqueduct of forty miles in extent, the ruins of which exist at present. The advantages of this water, connected with a plain of considerable magnitude, affording room for the operations of the cavalry, and well known to both parties, must have been the spot where both generals endeavoured to fix upon.

Hannibal was anxious to avoid this battle, and demanded an interview of Scipio for the purpose of concluding a peace. His eloquence, however, was without effect, and he made his dispositions with his accustomed vigour and ability, and though surrounded with the most discouraging difficulties, he did not forget that he had conquered on the banks of Tacinus, at Trebia, Thrasymene, and Cannea. This was a decisive and hard contested battle. Polybius, at a loss who to commend most, avers that the action was gained more by the steady valour of the Romans than by any peculiar merit of Scipio, and seems to think that Hannibal's plans displayed the most skill and judgment. The forces of Hannibal were drawn up in three divisions; the first was composed of mercenaries, Gauls, Mauritanians, Ligurians, and natives of the Balearic Islands; the second division were Carthaginians, a body on which his whole reliance was placed; the third division was the reserve, and the worst part of the army called the Brutii; the whole front was covered by eighty elephants. Scipio reviewing attentively these arrangements of Hannibal, made corresponding dispositions; the army which he brought with him from Sicily did not exceed thirty-five thousand men, but they were picked troops, and on his arrival the African prince, Massanissa, joined him with a heavy body of cavalry, so that both armies might have consisted of fifty thousand men on each side. Hannibal placed great dependence on his elephants. Since

Regulus had defeated the Carthagenians, owing to their confining the operations and movements of these animals in a small space, they had been particularly careful to select a spacious plain for their battles; and these plains are numerous in the north of Africa, where there are but few trees. Scipio formed his infantry into a phalanx similar to the Macedonian, and gave sufficient room to each soldier to wield his sword and shield, and if necessary, to close their ranks, and allow sufficient space for the elephants to pass through without doing much damage: this plan rendered their operations weak and inefficient. Hannibal had no very distinguished generals under him. The right wing of Scipio's army was commanded by Laelius, and the left by Massanissa, the centre was headed by Scipio in person. The attack was commenced by the Romans; and on the very onset, the elephants on which Hannibal placed great reliance were driven back by the light infantry, and threw the right wing of Hannibal's army into confusion: before they had time to rally and recover their position, they were furiously attacked by Massanissa, at the head of the cavalry, and driven off the field. The battle then became general: the Carthagenians fought with great valour, but were poorly supported by the mercenaries. Laelius had routed the Carthaginian cavalry on the left; Hannibal saw the confusion, but could apply no remedy; he placed himself at the head of the third line, and charged the Romans with pikes; this created a temporary derangement of Scipio's troops, who fell back in the rear. Scipio then changed the order of the battle, and formed his army into one entire line, with which he made a desperate effort; and while valiantly engaged on both sides, Laelius with his horse came on the rear of the Carthagenians. Hannibal finding himself attacked in front by Scipio, and on his rear and flanks by Massanissa and Laelius, sustained for a long time a horrible carnage, and finally was compelled to fly with a few horse. Thus finished the great contest in which the Carthagenians lost forty thousand men in killed, wounded, and prisoners—and thus ended the second Punic war. Hannibal left Africa, and Carthage obtained a peace on such conditions as led to her ruin.

## FOREIGN.

### EXPEDITION TO ALGIERS.

*From Bell's London Messenger of August 18.*

As the general armament of Europe, and indeed of America, are now on their way to the attack of this fortress of piracy, and as accounts may shortly be expected of their operations, the public mind, always anxious for the glory of the country, is naturally directed with a strong interest towards the probable issue of this expedition. And as it usually happens, where the scene of action is so remote from general knowledge, the apprehensions on the one part, and the sanguine hopes upon the other, are so totally beyond all reasonableness, that it becomes the duty of such of the public journals as profess impartiality, to afford a correct view of the actual state of the enterprize, of its expediency and the probable issue.

Upon the first question, the duty and expediency of this expedition, we should have thought

that a doubt could not have existed, and that as our settlements in the Mediterranean have rendered that sea in a great part a British channel, so it was incumbent equally upon our commercial interests, as upon our national dignity, to clear that sea of its pirates. To a commercial nation like England, the oceans, seas, and navigable rivers are the highways of the world; and it would appear, therefore, our manifest interest to clear them of robbers and murderers. In all trading nations, the security of the roads has been regarded as their first interest. But the sea, as we have said, is not the high road of a mere nation, but the highway of the world, the means of intercourse of nation with nation, and man with man. It will be acknowledged, we presume, that this representation makes out a strong case, and that to counterweigh it, a stronger must be made out on the opposite side. But the only contrary argument which we have met with, is the alleged difficulty of victualing Gibraltar and Malta, unless by the Barbary states. But this argument is grounded upon a supposition, that the object of the expedition is to destroy not only the pirates, but the states themselves; not only their city and forts, but their cultivated fields. But this, we presume, is not the object of the expedition. We should hope that the purpose is to root out the pirates, and replace them by Christian garrisons. We retain Gibraltar in the very teeth of Spain; why not Algiers in despite of Morocco? If the expedition proposes less than this, the argument in objection to it is not without some grounds. If it proposes this, it will establish in permanency the security which it proposes to restore.

Another argument has been used against, not only its expediency, but our right. It is urged, that the late massacre was that of a mob, who, rising in rebellion against their own government, and acting in despite and defiance of them, should not be confounded with the government itself; that all we can require as satisfaction for such an outrage is, that the government should disavow, and in so far as its powers go, should punish them. But this is already done; be it so. But has not the existing Algerine government actually taken up arms to defend the resolution of the new Dey and Divan to annul the former treaty? Does not the spirit in which the late massacre arose prove the folly of all such treaties with such powers? And is not their system one of piracy and robbery; and with respect to the alleged passes, English crews, &c. is it not notorious, (we are now speaking from the actual knowledge of a friend of our own) is it not, we say, notorious, that the Algerine pirates, in order to get rid of any English crew, compel them to walk overboard immediately when they take the vessel, and carry the vessel into port, as the ship of another nation. This custom is so much a matter of course, that the pirates execute it with as much coolness as cruelty. They lay an inclined plank from the vessel's side, and compel the crew, one by one, (as many of them only as are English) to walk into the sea.

As to the probable issue of this expedition, we should hope that there can be no doubt of a termination suited to the present glory of the English arms. It is perfectly true that Algiers is not in so deplorable a state of weakness as has been represented in some of our papers, and the two sail of the line will certainly not be sufficient to



humble and destroy it. But as so many powers have proceeded against it at one time, we will almost take upon ourselves to say, that at least thirty sail of the line will be laid abreast of it; and as we have a right to reckon upon the characteristic gallantry of English seamen, we are perfectly tranquil as to the event. The battle will certainly be formidable. The Algerines are stated to have nearly three hundred pieces of cannon commanding their harbour; and amongst the renegades they will doubtless find some wretches who will serve and manage them. But a fleet which succeeded at Copenhagen, can have nothing to fear at Algiers.

In the event of the success of the expedition in expelling the Algerines, of which we cannot allow ourselves to entertain any doubt, one of two measures is proposed—the first is, that of delivering these towns and cities into the hands of the Grand Seigneur, as members of his dominions, and the second, that of establishing in them Christian garrisons. We will not allow ourselves a momentary consideration of the former, as it must be as repugnant to the feelings of our readers, as we feel it to be to our own minds. We must express our hopes that the latter will be adopted, and we must confess that we see some difficulties in accomplishing it; but they are neither insuperable, nor too much nor too many for the importance of the object. We certainly see no reason why we should not meet the ignorance and fanaticism of Mahometans by the civilization and tempered zeal of Christian nations, and why we should not attempt (under such a manifest opening) the establishment of a Christian empire on the coasts of the Mediterranean.

One of the evils of the presents times, is undoubtedly the excess of our population beyond our actual means. Would it not appear, that the most natural remedy would be what was the remedy of the nations of the ancient world, under similar circumstances—colonization.

The present sovereigns of Africa, on the coast of the Mediterranean, are four: the first of whom is the Emperor of Morocco; the other three are the Dey of Algiers, the Bey of Tunis, and the Bey of Tripoli. Our first business is with the Dey of Algiers, and afterwards with the Beys of Tripoli and Tunis. It is a matter of some doubt, whether the Emperor of Morocco (for so we presume we must call this barbarian) will not declare his neutrality, and renew the peace for himself.

*From the Kingston, (Jam.) Royal Gazette.*

### THREE-FINGERED JACK.

The following account, published by Dr. Mosely in his Treatise on Sugar, of the combat between John Reeder and Three Fingered Jack, a notorious runaway, which took place on the 27th January, 1781, near Mount-Libanus, in St. Thomas's in the East, will be read, it is presumed, with some interest, on account of his recent death. John Reeder received the reward of one hundred pounds offered by the proclamation of Major-General John Dalling, then governor of this island, and afterwards had an annual stipend of twenty-five pounds, which was increased of late years to thirty pounds, and paid under the poll-tax law.

Formerly there was no regular method of treat-

ing the *yaves* in the West-Indies. It was thought to be a disorder that would have its course, and, if interrupted, that it would be dangerous. It was then the custom, when a negro was attacked with it, to separate him from the rest, and send him to some lonely place by the sea-side, to bathe; or into the mountains, to some provision-ground or plantain-walk, where he could act as a watch-man, and maintain himself, without any expense to the estate, until he was well; then he was brought back to the sugar-work.

But this rarely happened. A cold, damp, smoky hut, for his habitation; snakes and lizards his companions; crude, viscid food, and bad water, his only support; and shunned as a leper; he usually sunk from the land of the living.

But some of these abandoned exiles lived, in spite of the common law of nature, and survived a general mutation of their muscles, ligaments, and osteology; became also hideously white in their woolly hair and skin; with their limbs and bodies twisted and turned, by the force of the distemper, into shocking grotesque figures, resembling woody excrescences, or stumps of trees; or old Egyptian figures, that seem as if they had been made of the ends of the human and beginnings of the brutal form; which figures are, by some antiquaries, taken for gods, and by others for devils.

In their banishment, their huts often became the receptacles of robbers and fugitive negroes; and, as they had no power to resist any who chose to take shelter in their hovels, they had nothing to lose, and were forsaken by the world; a tiger would hardly molest them. Their desperate guests never did.

The host of the hut, as he grew more misshapen generally became more subtle; this we observed in England, in crooked scrofulous persons; as if nature disliked people's being both cunning and strong.

Many of their wayward visitors were deeply skilled in magic, and what we call the *black art*, which they brought with them from Africa; and, in return for their accommodation, they usually taught their landlord the mysteries of sigils spells and sorcery; and *illuminated* him in all the occult science of *Obi*.\*

Those ugly, loathsome creatures thus became oracles of woods and unfrequented places; and were resorted to secretly, by the wretched in mind, and by the malicious for wicked purposes.

*Obi* and *gambling*, are the only instances, I have been able to discover, among the natives of the negro land in Africa, in which any effort at combining ideas has ever been demonstrated.

\* This *Obi*, or, as it is pronounced in the English West-Indies, *Obeah*, had its origin, like many customs among the Africans, from the ancient Egyptians.

*Ob* is a demon, a spirit of divination and magic.—When Saul wanted to raise up Samuel from the dead, he said to his servants, “seek me a woman (eminent for *Ob*) that hath a familiar spirit.”

His servants replied to him, “There is a woman (mistress in the art of *Ob*) that hath a familiar spirit, at Endor.”

When the witch of Endor came to Saul, he said to her, “Divine unto me (by the witchcraft of *Ob*) by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up whom I shall name unto thee.” I. *Samuel*, chap. xxviii. v. 7 and 8.

The science of *Obi* is very extensive.

*Obi*, for the purposes of bewitching people, or consuming them by lingering illness, is made of grave dirt, hair, teeth of sharks, and other creatures, blood, feathers, egg shells, images in wax, the hearts of birds, and some potent roots, weeds, and bushes, of which the Europeans are at this time ignorant; but which were known, for the same purposes, to the ancients.

Certain mixtures of these ingredients are burnt, or buried very deep in the ground; or hung up a chimney; or laid under the threshold of the door of the party to suffer; with incantation songs, or curses, performed at midnight, regarding the aspects of the moon. The party, who wants to do the mischief, is also sent to burying grounds, or some secret place which spirits are supposed to frequent, to invoke his dead parents to assist him in the curse.

A negro, who thinks himself bewitched by *Obi*, will apply to to *Obi-man*, or *Obi-woman*, for cure.

These magicians will interrogate the patient, as to the part of the body most afflicted. This part they will torture with pinching, drawing with gourds or calabashes, beating and pressing. When the patient is nearly exhausted with this rough magnetising, *Obi* brings out an old rusty nail, or a piece of bone, or an ass's tooth, or the jaw-bone of a rat, or a fragment of a quart bottle, from the part; and the patient is well the next day.

The most wrinkled and most deformed *Obian* magicians are most venerated. This was the case among the Egyptians and Chaldeans.

In general, *Obi-men* are more sagacious than *Obi-women* in giving or taking away diseases; and in the application of poisons. It is in their department to blind pigs and poultry, and lame cattle.

It is the province of the *Obi women* to dispose of the passions. They sell foul winds for inconstant mariners; dreams and phantasies for jealousy; vexation, and pain in the heart, for perfidious love; and for the perturbed, impatient, and wretched, as the tardy acts of time, to turn in prophetic fury to a future page in the book of fate, and amaze the ravished sense of the tempest-tossed querent.

Laws have been made in the West-Indies to punish the *Obian* practice with death; but they have had no effect. Laws, constructed in the West-Indies, can never suppress the effect of ideas, the origin of which is in the centre of Africa.

I saw the *Obi* of the famous negro robber, *Three-fingered Jack*, the terror of Jamaica in 1780 and 1781. The Maroons who slew him brought it to me.

His *Obi* consisted of the end of a goat's horn, filled with a compound of grave dirt, ashes, the blood of a black cat, and human fat: all mixed into a kind of paste. A black cat's foot, a dried toad, a pig's tail, a slip of parchment of kid's skin, with characters marked in blood on it, were also in his *Obian* bag.

These, with a keen sabre, and two guns, like *Robinson Crusoe*, were all his *Obi*; with which, and his courage in descending into the plains, and plundering to supply his wants, and his skill in retreating into difficult fastnesses, commanding the only access to them, where none dared to follow him, he terrified the inhabitants, and set the civil power, and the neighboring militia of that island, at defiance, for two years.

He had neither accomplice nor associate.—There were a few runaway negroes in the woods near Mount Libanus, the place of his retreat; but he had crossed their foreheads with some of the magic in his horn, and they could not betray him. But he trusted no one. He scorned assistance. He ascended above *Spartacus*. He robbed alone; fought all his battles alone; and always killed his pursuers.

By his magic, he was not only the dread of the negroes, but there were many white people who believed he was possessed of some supernatural power.

In hot climates females marry very young; and often with great disparity of age. Here *Jack* was the author of many troubles; for several matches proved unhappy.

"Give a dog an ill name, and hang him."

Clamours rose on clamours against the cruel sorcerer; and every conjugal mishap was laid at the door of *Jack's* malific spell of tying the point on the wedding day.

God knows poor *Jack* had sins enough of his own to carry, without loading him with the sins of others. He would sooner have made a *Meagan* cauldron for the whole island, than disturb one Lady's happiness. He had many opportunities; and, though he had a mortal hatred to white men, he was never known to hurt a child, or abuse a woman.

But even *Jack* himself was born to die.

Allured by the rewards offered by Governor Dalling, in a Proclamation, dated the 19th of December, 1780, and by a resolution which followed it, of the House of Assembly,\* two negroes, named *Quashee* and *Sam*, both of *Scot's Hall*, Maroon-Town, with a party of their townsmen, went in search of him.

*Quashee*, before he set out on the expedition, got himself christened, and changed his name to *James [John] Reeder*.

The expedition commenced: and the whole party had been creeping about in the woods for three weeks, and blockading, as it were the deepest recesses of the most inaccessible part of the island, where *Jack*, far remote from all human society, resided, but in vain.

*Reeder* and *Sam*, tired with his mode of war, resolved on proceeding in search of his retreat, and taking him, by storming it, or perishing in the attempt.

They took with them a little boy, a proper spirit, and a good shot, and left the rest of the party.

These three, whom I well knew, had not been

\* House of Assembly, 29th December, 1780.

Resolved, That over and above the reward of one hundred pounds offered by his Majesty's Proclamation, for taking or killing the rebellious negro called *Three-fingered Jack*, the further reward of *Freedom* shall be given to any slave that shall take or kill the said *Three-fingered Jack*, and that the house will make good the value of such slave to the proprietor thereof. And if any one of his accomplices will kill the said *Three-fingered Jack*, and bring in his head, and hand wanting the fingers, such accomplice shall be entitled to his free Pardon, and his *Freedom* as above, upon due proof being made of their being the head and hand of the said *Three-fingered Jack*.

By the House,

SAMUEL HOWELL, Cl. As.

long separated, before their cunning eyes discovered, by impressions among the weeds and bushes, that some person must have lately been that way.

They softly followed these impressions, making not the least noise. Presently they discovered a smoke.

They prepared for war. They came upon *Jack* before he perceived them. He was roasting *plantains*, by a little fire on the ground, at the mouth of a cave.

This was a scene, not where ordinary actors had a common part to play.

*Jack's* looks were fierce and terrible. He told them he would kill them.

*Reeder*, instead of shooting *Jack*, replied, that his *Obi* had no power to hurt him; for he was christened; and that his name was no longer *Quashee*.

*Jack* knew *Reeder*; and, as if paralyzed, he let his two guns remain on the ground, and took up only his cutlass.

These two had a desperate engagement several years before, in the woods; in which conflict *Jack* lost the two fingers, which was the origin of his present name; but *Jack* then beat *Reeder*, and almost killed him, with several others who assisted him; and they fled from *Jack*.

To do *Three-fingered Jack* justice, he would now have killed both *Reeder* and *Sam*; for, at first, they were frightened at the sight of him, and the dreadful tone of his voice; and well they might; they had besides no retreat, and were to grapple with the bravest and strongest man in the world.

But *Jack* was cowed; for he had prophesied, that *white Obi* would get the better of him, and, from experience, he knew the charm would lose none of its strength in the hands of *Reeder*.

Without farther parley, *Jack*, with his cutlass in his hand, threw himself down a precipice at the back of the cave.

*Reeder's* gun missed fire. *Sam* shot him in the shoulder. *Reeder*, like an English bulldog, never looked, but, with his cutlass in his hand, plunged headlong down after *Jack*.—The descent was about thirty yards, and almost perpendicular. Both of them had preserved their cutlasses in the fall.

Here was the stage, on which two of the stoutest hearts, that were ever hooped with ribs, began their bloody struggle.

The little boy, who was ordered to keep back, out of harm's way, now reached the top of the precipice, and, during the fight, shot *Jack* in the belly.

*Sam* was crafty, and coolly took a round about way to get to the field of action. When he arrived at the spot where it began, *Jack* and *Reeder* had closed, and tumbled together down another precipice, on the side of the mountain, in which fall they both lost their weapons.

*Sam* descended after them, who also lost his cutlass among the trees and bushes in getting down.

When he came to them, though without weapons, they were not idle; and, luckily for *Reeder*, *Jack's* wounds were deep and desperate, and he was in great agony.

*Sam* came up just time enough to save *Reeder*; for *Jack* had caught him by the throat, with his giant's grasp. *Reeder* then was with his right hand almost cut off, and *Jack* streaming with blood from his shoulder and belly; both covered with gore and gashes.

In this state *Sam* was umpire, and decided the fate of the battle. He knocked *Jack* down with a piece of a rock.

When the lion fell, the two tigers got upon him, and beat his brains out with stones.

The little boy soon after found his way, to them. He had a cutlass, with which they cut off *Jack's* head and *Three-fingered hand*, and took them in triumph to Moran Bay.

There they put their trophies into a pail of rum, and, followed by a vast concourse of negroes, now no longer afraid of *Jack's Obi*, they carried them to Kingston, and Spanish-Town; and claimed the reward of the King's Proclamation, and the House of Assembly.

*Died*—in Hannah's Town, on Tuesday night, at a very advanced age, *John Reeder*, a well known black man as having been many years Captain of the Charles Town Maroons. He is the person who in the year 1781, after a most severe personal conflict killed the noted and desperate robber *Three-fingered Jack*, who was supposed by the negroes to be possessed of supernatural powers, and deemed invulnerable from all attacks.—In consequence of this service *Reeder* received an annual stipend from the government of this Island. He did not know his exact age, but said only a few days ago that he was a stout boy at the first peace with the Maroons in the year 1739.—*Kingston pap.* August 2.

#### THE DIVING BELL.

The Diving Bell (improperly so termed) now in use at Plymouth, is of a rectangular form, about eight feet in length, three feet in breadth, and 5 feet 6 inches deep. Within are two seats; the whole of cast iron, 8 inches thick, weighing 4 tons. Notwithstanding this extreme weight, it is when in the water extremely manageable. A vessel called the *Resolute* has been fitted to carry the Bell, which is placed abaft, under a strong crane, to which it is attached by a chain of great strength. Two davids run out from the stern of the *Resolute*, on which, when the machine is weighed by the crane, it is placed previous to its immersion. The diver, Mr. Fisher, is a remarkably intrepid man; he has been frequently employed in England and Ireland on these submarine excursions, has several times been four hours under water, and has often been placed in dangerous situations, the Bell sometimes nearly capsizing and filling with water, &c. He has been accompanied in his descents in Plymouth Sound by volunteers, who have described the sensation experienced on the immersion of the Bell as similar to that felt on suddenly dipping the head under water. With one or two, blood has started from the nose, and all experienced considerable heat while below. There are 12 glass illuminators in the roof of the Bell, so that every thing is seen as distinctly below as above. Air is forced into the machine through a tube attached to it, one person above being constantly employed in pumping; the damaged air escapes under the Bell, and is seen rushing to the surface of the water in globules. A slight accident occurred to the tube on Thursday se'nnight, by some stitches in it getting loose, by which the water rose as high as the knees of the adventurers; they however did not give the signal of recall by striking with a hammer on the



machine, but were hoisted up by those above, who had perceived that something unusual had occurred.—On Friday se'nnight the Resolute returned to Catwater. On Saturday se'nnight, having resumed her station, the machine was lowered and an anchor was got up which had been lost, and which annoyed the anchorage. But the Diving Bell is shortly to be employed in Hanoaze, on one of those stupendous undertakings which characterize the present age and mark the progress of improvement. The present jetty-heads in Plymouth Yard are platforms resting on vast piles driven into the sea by a machine exactly resembling the guillotine in form (though much higher) these, to high water mark are filled with nails, to give them as much indestructibility as possible, and the whole is strongly connected by horizontal pieces. Along side these jetties or wharves the men of war lie for the purpose of repair, &c. It is now in contemplation to remove (in succession) the jetties; to drive new piles without filling nails, and with the assistance of the bell to cut off every pile three feet or more under low water mark. On these piles so cut off, an immense mass of masonry will be laid, and the wharves will become solid bodies of stone.

#### Fire-works and Soda Water.

There is a penalty prescribed in a law of Parliament for using detoning balls, and the igneous element of which they are composed. This clause respecting fire works has, by a late occurrence, been proved to be more comprehensive than has been imagined. A poor woman was sent with a basket to a neighboring town, to purchase six bottles of soda.—On her return, just as she was passing a poor old beggar, one of the corks flew out with a tremendous report, and hit the beggar on the nose. The woman was so alarmed that she instantly put the basket down, and ran home without it.—Inquiry being made for the Soda Water, she said a pistol was in the basket, which went off suddenly, and so frightened her, she left it behind. In the mean time, the beggar, smarting with the rap on the nose, went to his worship, the justice, for a warrant for the assault. The poor woman was taken into custody and carried before his honour; and on being closely interrogated where she purchased the combustible matter, she acknowledged having got it at Mr. Ollapod's, the apothecary. "Zounds!" said his Worship, "Mr. officer, pop off instantly and purchase six bottles of this aqueous, igneous, dangerous composition." The bottles were procured—and Ollapod summoned.—The apothecary in vain endeavored to prove that a bottle might be let off in a barrel of gunpowder without injury, and that the supposed flash was not fire. But the composition was determined to be aqueous, igneous, and to come strictly under the *genus generalissimum* mentioned in the act. Ollapod was, therefore, convicted in the full penalty for selling fire-works; and the poor woman to find bail, to answer the complaint of the beggar for the assault. [London pap.]

#### MEXICO.

The editors of the New-York Mercantile Advertiser have been favored with a translation of the following interesting intelligence from Mexico. The fact here stated, of the revolutionists having taken possession of Matagorda, is confirmed

by the report of capt. Fowler, from New-Orleans:

"His excellency Don Jose Manuel de Herrera, minister plenipotentiary from the republican government of Mexico, to the United States, has communicated, under date of 24th August last, from the port of Matagorda, to a respectable person at Philadelphia, the following information.

"The republican army of the province of Vera Cruz, under the command of gen. Vittoria laid siege, on the 18th July last to the cities of Cordova and Orizabo, which were then on the eve of surrendering. The commander in chief of the republican troops of the province of Puebla Terran, was endeavoring by forced marches to occupy the ports of Guazacualcos, which was without means of defence. Gen. Bastamante had been victorious over the royalists as often as he had met them, and was pursuing them with all haste. Gen. Arredondo, commander in chief of the interior provinces, for the royalists, had fallen back with the few forces under his orders, to Monterrey, the capital of the new kingdom of Leon, in consequence of the republicans having occupied the port of Matagorda, where they had fortified themselves, and where they were daily augmenting their strength. Subsequent to the possession of that port has been the evacuation of St. Antonia de Baxar, capital of the province of Texas, which was garrisoned by the regiment of Estremadura, one of the most famous corps of the royal party.

"The republican army of the north is, for the present, under the command of col. Peire, during the absence of gen. Toledo, who is now in the United States on business of moment, and whose presence with the army is impatiently desired.

"The representatives who are to compose the next congress are named by the people, and by the present time will have opened their session. It afforded great pleasure to see the joy and enthusiasm which pervaded the Mexicans on the days of election. A person who was witness to this interesting scene says, that in the province of Valladolid, there were various likenesses of Washington and Franklin, which the people carried in their processions, accompanied with music and songs, allegorical of the occasion.

"Between Washington and Franklin some carried the resemblance of the gen. Cura Balgo, the first who had the glory and courage to raise the standard of liberty, who was afterwards made prisoner, and shot by the cruel Spaniards at the age of seventy.

"Never has the Mexican cause presented so favourable an aspect. The next congress, formed of men of influence, will remove all these difficulties, which, until the present moment, have paralyzed that rapid progress which was looked for in a revolution created by the unanimous and express will of the people.

"The immense resources which our beautiful country contains, will henceforward be administered by a government, which, meriting the public confidence, will give a new impulse, and will cause itself to be felt by the physical and moral qualities of the republic.

"The next campaign will be an object of lively interest to all men who are really lovers of the sacred rights of humanity; it will complete the emancipation of that fine country from the oppressive hand of despotism. The inhabitants of Mexico will hereafter be enabled to enjoy and partici-

pate equally, the precious gifts with which nature has favoured them."

NEW-YORK, October 14.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman on board the U. S. sloop of war Peacock, dated, "Gibraltar, Aug. 16.*

"We arrived here on the 15th inst. the day after Lord Exmouth's squadron sailed for the destruction of Algiers. On taking his departure he was saluted by the batteries on shore, which was returned by the squadron. They have been here some time preparing and exercising their boats for the expedition, and at one time made a display of ninety, exercising a brass gun in each.

"Commodore Chauncey is off Naples, where our squadron at present rendezvous, and the Peacock proceeds to join him."

#### SUMMARY—FOREIGN & DOMESTIC.

##### FOREIGN.

Foreign accounts have been received at Boston from France, up to the 26th of August. Things in that country remain tranquil. They appear to have got through their criminal docket, having condemned to death, for contumacy, all that appeared on it—most of whom were safe in foreign countries. Many of the French exiled generals were near Brussels, some of whom had been arrested, and others ordered out of the kingdom. The king of the Netherlands has issued positive orders to expel from his dominions all exiles included in the ordinance of the 24th of July. On the 24th of August the feast of St. Lewis was celebrated at Paris. The king received all the authorities, staff officers, &c. in the hall of the throne. The gouty old king was well enough, it is said, to walk into the city. The weather in France is a subject of remark—it is said that the oldest inhabitants never witnessed a summer so cold; indeed, they say there has been no summer. A traveller had arrived in Paris from Louisiana with a living crocodile, where it was exhibited as a curiosity. Bull fight, such as are common in Spain, have been exhibited at Bayonne. The Polytechnic School is to be immediately re-organized in France.

Capt. Thompson, who arrived at Charleston on the 6th instant from Havana, states that Gen. Morillo had proclaimed *Carthageria* a free port. Rice 6 dollars—flour 17 to 18, and rising.—There is no more talk about shutting the ports of Cuba, says a Nassau paper of the 14th August, against foreign commerce; indeed they are closely enough sealed by Carthaginian cruizers.—It is said to be very sickly at Guadaloupe: one hundred funerals have taken place there in one day. In Antigua, also, the yellow fever prevails with an alarming fatality: one-third of the inhabitants are said to have fallen victims to it.

About the 10th of August, a Spanish schooner, with 300 slaves, from Africa, on board, bound to Havana; run aground on the Gingerbread Ground, near the Gulf passage. She was got off by throwing her guns and stores overboard, with the loss of her anchors and rudder. She arrived at Nassau a few days after, and after undergoing the necessary repairs, sailed again for Havana.

The merchants at Havana have come forward with voluntary subscriptions to aid the government to oppose with effect the depredations of

the insurgent cruizers upon their commerce. The measures of the government are represented to be just strong enough to expose their imbecility.

A report has been circulated at Gibraltar, that the Dey of Algiers has been put to death, and that his son, his successor, had annulled the treaty with the United States—Not believed.

By the following letter it will be seen, that certain articles have been prohibited to be exported from the United States into Lower Canada:

Custom House, Coteau-du-Lac,  
23d September, 1816.

SIR—I beg leave to acquaint you, that I have just received a letter from His Excellency the Governor in Chief, saying that he is pleased to cancel and withdraw the instructions which were conveyed on the 1st April last, authorizing the importation into Lower Canada from the United States, of Flour, Indian Meal, Beef and Pork, fresh and salted, and Hog's Lard.

You will therefore please convey this intelligence to the several principal officers of the United States customs along the line, for their government.

I have the honor to be, &c.

A. WILLSON, Collector.

To A. RICHARDS, Esq. Collector of the Customs—Ogdensburg.

The 12,000 dollars of specie lately seized on board of the Lake Champlain steam boat, has arrived at Montreal, and been deposited in the King's Cash Office, under an escort of 19 Light Dragoons from St. Johns.

##### DOMESTIC.

The Maine convention adjourned on the 9th inst. to meet again in December next. They made a report in favour of separation, though five ninths of the votes were not in favour. They have given a construction to the law contrary to what appears to have been the general construction. The report is said to have been written by Mr. Holmes, and is called a fine piece of sophistry—we shall publish the report in our next.

Gen. Jackson, with the other commissioners, have completed the treaty, it is said, in a satisfactory manner. The stipulations of the treaty includes all the land lying between the mouth of Bear Creek and fort Deposit, on the north side of Tennessee River, for which the United States are to pay \$80,000, in ten annual instalments; and for the establishment of Gen. Coffee's line, with the possession of the lands included therein, they are to pay \$120,000, in ten annual instalments.

The present season has been remarkably healthy in N. Orleans, as, indeed, it has been throughout the United States.

Specie, in small change, is beginning to appear in the city and State of New-York, and in the city of Philadelphia, the banks having agreed to redeem all their *rags* below one dollar.

The Governor of Massachusetts has appointed Thursday the 28th day of November, next to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving, and praise throughout that Commonwealth.

Gov. Plumer, of New Hampshire, has issued a proclamation appointing Thursday the 14th of Nov. to be observed as a day of "public thanksgiving," throughout the State.

A gentleman arrived in Albany on the 29th Sept. from St. Louis, Mo. T. having travelled one horse 1300 miles in 29 days.